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H29

ACTION NEA-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	INL-00	DOEE-00	PDI-00
	DS-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC1-00	H-00
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	M-00	AC-00
	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	OIC-00	OMB-00	PA-00	PM-00
	GIWI-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	T-00
	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	ECA-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00

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 FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8475
 WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
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 DIA WASHDC
 CIA WASHDC
 DA WASHINGTON DC//DAS-ZD/DACS-ZK//
 CSAF WASHINGTON DC//POLAD//
 CMC WASHINGTON DC
 CNO WASHINGTON DC//POLAD//
 INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE
 AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
 AMEMBASSY ROME
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 005087

STATE PASS BBG
 STATE FOR NEA, NEA/IPA, NEA/PPD
 WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE, SIT ROOM
 NSC FOR ABRAMS
 CMC WASHINGTON DC FOR POLAD

JERUSALEM ALSO FOR ICD
 LONDON FOR HKANONA AND POL - TSOU
 PARIS ALSO FOR POL
 ROME FOR MFO

E.O. 12958: N/A
 TAGS: PREL, KMDR, KPAL, KWBG, IS, KPAO, OPRC
 SUBJECT: JERUSALEM MEDIA REACTION - COMMENTS ON U.S. GLOBAL

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PRISONS

TOP STORIES

All dailies led with pictures and reports of the three bombings that hit the Jordanian capital Amman last night. Al-Quds reported that 67 people were "martyred" and 300 injured when the explosions rocked Grand Hyatt, Radisson SAS and Days Inn. In the Grand Hyatt blast, Al-Quds stated, Palestinian intelligence official Bashir Nafe' was reportedly "martyred." PA President Abbas condemned the bombings describing them as crimes against humanity.

The dailies reported that a 35-year-old Palestinian from Issawiyeh village near Jerusalem was shot dead by Israeli border police in the French Hill neighborhood of Jerusalem yesterday. Israeli radio was quoted as saying that the man tried to run over border police members present near an Eged bus stop in the area. Issawiyeh residents denied Israeli radio's "claims" saying that the man was married with three children and a respected owner of a well-known taxi rental.

The dailies reported that the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) dropped its demand for President Abbas to form a new government and decided not to pursue a no-confidence vote against the Quraya' cabinet despite ongoing criticism of the cabinet's performance on internal security.

Al-Quds front-paged a report that Quartet envoy Wolfensohn stated that Israeli security demands obstruct the reopening of the Rafah crossing, which led to the Quartet decision to extend Wolfensohn's length of duty. In a related report, Al-Hayat Al-Jadida said that the World Bank has prepared a plan to build three crossings between Gaza and the West Bank to allow at least 2100 residents to pass per day.

Al-Quds reported that EU Foreign and Security Senior Coordinator Solana will visit the Middle East later this week to determine the EU's political participation in the region.

The dailies highlighted reports that the Muslim Waqf (Trust) and the Dajani family of Jerusalem have warned that if the Israeli government's attempt to convince the Vatican to sign a land transfer agreement takes place, this will spark trouble among Muslim-Christian relations in the city. According to agreement Israel would give the Catholic Church control over the room of Last Supper which is reported to be in the Nabi Daoud Mosque in Jerusalem, and, in return, the

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Vatican would hand over control of an ancient synagogue in Toledo, Spain to the Jewish community there.

POLITICAL CARTOON

Al-Hayat Al-Jadida ran a political cartoon depicting a man with a U.S. hat holding a sign that says "Faluja 2004: the hidden massacre" while thinking to himself: "the white phosphorus is good for the black (darkest) day."

BLOCK QUOTES

1. Independent Al-Quds ran a commentary by Ibrahim Sha'ban under the headline, "Dark American Prisons" (11/10): "The Washington Post reported that American prisons are being established in various parts of the world, particularly some

Arab and Eastern Europe countries to question security prisoners from different countries with regard to al-Qaeda and Muslim terrorism... The American administration failed to recall that there is an American constitution that prevents arbitrary arrest of human beings... It also disregarded the provisions of the American human rights declaration on the assurances of arrests and prevention of random arrests... The weird thing though is that the U.S. does not stop bragging that it cares for freedom and civil rights... Such dark American prisons will only worsen the situation and will not bring good to America. They will be a curse to the law and a bad scar on America's forehead."

2. Yusef Qutteineh opined in independent Al-Quds under the headline, "Torturing Arab and Muslim Prisoners is a Systematic American Policy" (11/10): "Torturing Arab and Muslim prisoners at American prisoners in and outside the U.S. is a systematic American policy and not only for some exceptions as President Bush's administration claims... Senator Democrat Richard Durbin accused Dick Cheney of supporting the use of inhumane methods and maltreatment of prisoners when questioning them... The big problem is that this administration claims that its main concern is to spread freedom and prosperity to all and that it wants to terminate tyranny and terrorism while it practices torture against prisoners in secret detention centers it established like those of the former Soviet Union... It has, and still is murdering tens of thousands of Arab and Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq in cold blood, then pretends to cry for the bloodshed of former Lebanese Prime Minister Hariri and

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uses it as a pretext to threaten Syria... The American administration practices its assaults only on Arabs and Muslims as its only enemies and deals with them in a superior fashion. It also appoints itself as a custodian [of Arab and Muslim affairs], which only embodies Bush's remarks following the 9/11 events in which he said he will wage a crusade war against Arabs and Muslims."

WALLES

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